

7/17/69

Dick and Gary,

Dick's 7/14 is fantastic, not only in connection with the pretenses of John's suit, but what the hell kind of examination was made if fragments remained to fall off on handling? Something had to have been going on. I handled 388 the winter of 1966, probably before Xmas, perhaps my notes will show. I mean, out of plastic case, in my hands. Nothing was rattlin' around then.

My pix were taken after Thompson's. I looked at his and considered them inadequate, had my own made. I watched the making of mine. Nothin' felloff.

Get R to send you a copy of his letter so you can counsel etc., and of the reply, if any.

Your hunch was timed perfectly, for as you know, I followed it up with an unanswered request for a picture of 399 on a scale or a certification of its present weight.

They'll be up tight when they hear from R. They'll be certain he is working with me and I put him up to it!

It can be alleged that the tiny fragments must indeed be tiny not to account for all of what might be missing from the end.

On the other hand, they may not figure the way I do. They may go ahead and tell R the truth. On this chance, I suggest you spread it no further, to give him the best chance of succeeding.

We all know there were no fragments when you and Tom and I were there and looked at that case John phoned last night. He is thinking of amending his suit and anticipates if he does the govt will get an additional 60 days for response.

At this point someone besides me, maybe Olson, should see if the sycophant who name escapes me at the moment, the urologist at Columbia's Presbyterian Hospital, has any pix of 399. He just might have had some made for his first paper (1966) or his second, the one on the slicking.

If and when I hear from Archives, I'll let you know. I have to go to DC next week. If weather is not ~~hot~~ I'll appear in person and ask for answer on weight.

Best,

Harold Weisberg